

REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 4, 6-14 and 16-20 are pending and under consideration. Claims 2, 15 and 21-29 are cancelled.

ALLOWED CLAIMS

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the indication that claims 1, 3, 4, 6-14 and 16-20 are allowed.

CLAIM REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 21-29 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 as allegedly being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,884,032 to Bateman et al (hereinafter "Bateman") in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2003/0097339 to Funck et al. ("Funck").

Claims 21-29 are cancelled without prejudice.

CONCLUSION

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

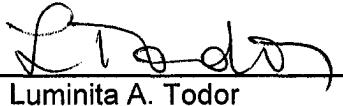
Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: Aug. 29, 2008

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